

Sleepless Nights , Jonas Mekas, 2011

More of the Mekas diaries, and sadly uneven. The best parts: a tribute to Marie Menken, and a walk in the woods remembering his childhood fusion with nature. Lots of worst parts: a bunch of artists, again and again, sitting around drinking and being Romantic Artists. A little of this can go a long way. A visit to an Artaud commemorative exhibit (in France?) with lots of shaky camera, two conflicting voice tracks, and it goes no where. Somebody, buy this man a monopod!

In his older diary work, such as *Walden*, *Lost Lost Lost*, etc., Mekas was forced into self editing in a good way: the Bolex only had a 30 second wind, film was precious and expensive. Here with video, yes it is edited, but there's just too much footage, totally predictable events, and so forth.

Saving Face, d. Alice Wu, 2004